

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 083451

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP

SUBJ: USDA FOOD SHOW

REF: A) KU 1565 B) KU 1567 C) KU 1615

PASS DAN SHEPPARD

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF REF. A & B, SURVEYED PARTICIPANTS RE. THEIR ETA AND HOTELS IN KUWAIT. WHILE SEVERAL WERE ALREADY ENROUTE AND COULDN'T BE REACHED, DATA GATHERED IN SHARP VARIATION WITH THAT PRESENTED REF C. AS GENERAL RULE, FAS DOES NOT GET INVOLVED WITH TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS OF PARTICIPANTS IN OUR SHOWS. ALL MATERIAL SENT TO KUWAIT EXHIBITORS STATED ROOM RESERVATIONS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY, HOWEVER THEY WERE ADVISED THAT HILTON WAS HOLDING ROOMS FOR SHOW. OUR SURVEY INDICATES THAT EACH PARTICIPANT HAS ATTEMPTED TO SECURE OWN RESERVATIONS AND IN MANY CASES HAVE REC'D WRITTEN CONFIRMATION IN VARIANCE WITH REF C. HOPEFULLY INVOLVED HOTELS WILL HONOR THESE CONFIRMED RESERVATIONS. IT APPEARS THERE ARE SUFFICIENT TRAVELERS TO UTILIZE ROOMS HELD FOR EXHIBITORS BY HILTON.

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2. EXAMPLE OF DIFFERENCES:

A) LAUHOFF GRAIN CO. - MELINA HAS WRITTEN CONFIRMATION BEGINNING APRIL 11 FOR 5 NITES AT SHERATON RESERVATION #677231310.

B) MFC - HAS WRITTEN CONFIRMATION 2 DOUBLES ETA 10 APRIL AT SHERATON RESERVATION #5709190 FOR BOND.

C) POTATO BOARD - HAS CABLE FROM FAYSAL SHUAIB THEIR PR MAN IN KUWAIT WHO HAS ROOMS IN SHERATON FOR HASTILLO AND JAMES. POTATO BOARD CABLING SHUAIB, INSTRUCTING HIM TO CONTACT SHEPPARD REGARDING DISCREPANCY.

D) PNITC & DRY PEA AND LENTIL - BOTH GLATT'S AND OLSON'S OFFICES STATE EACH MAN HAS WRITTEN CONFIRMATION FOR SINGLE AT SHERATON. DO NOT KNOW CONFIRMATION NUMBER.

E) SUTHERLAND - BEING REPRESENTED BY PNITC. BREWER NOT ATTENDING, THEY RPT. NOT UTILIZING A ROOM IN HILTON AS SHOWN REF C.

F) MINNESOTA GROUP LEAD BY SCHLENK (ALSO REPRESENTING VITALE'S) MAKING OWN ARRANGEMENTS. SCHLENK CONFIRMS THAT COMMISSIONER OF AG. WEFALD NOT ATTENDING. DID TALK TO VARIOUS MEMBERS OF MINN. DELEGATION (DAIRY QUEEN, BUTTER KERNEL, AND PILLSBURY) WHO ALL STATE THEY HAVE SINGLES AT HILTON ARRANGED BY KUWAIT AIRLINES.

3. PER REF B, PARA 8 COMMISSIONER OF AG. BALL OF MICHIGAN NOT ATTENDING. MARSOUR BEJAOUI OF MICHIGAN DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE STILL SCHEDULED TO ATTEND SHOW.

4. MELINA OF LAUHOFF REQUESTS EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING 1 NITE EXTENSION OF ROOM RESERVATION OR ROOM IN ANOTHER HOTEL AS HE UNABLE DEPART KUWAIT ON APRIL 16 AS PLANNED. NOW SCHEDULED DEPART KUWAIT 17 APRIL.

5. DOBBINS AND LAPIDOS (CHEW, INC.) RECENTLY DISCUSSED LARGE NUMBER OF FIRMS REPRESENTED BY CHEW--RESULT BEING CHEW AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE AN ADDITIONAL BOOTH (#5 FOR CHEW, #34 FOR EXHIBIT).

6. SHEPPARD'S RETURN FL. NYC-BALTIMORE 25 APRIL CONFIRMED PER UNCLASSIFIED

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TRAVEL PLAN.

7. SHEPPARD REQUESTED CONTACT MOXIE INDUSTRIES REP. MR. MACOMBER TO ASCERTAIN HIS INTEREST IN MOXIE PARTICIPATION VIENNA ATTACHE PRODUCT DISPLAY JUNE 14-16. MOXIE HEADQUARTERS REFERRED US TO MACOMBER. KISSINGER

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